

4th forme

THE VER TVOVS DAUGHTER.

A
**Sermon Preached at Saint Maries
in Warwicke at the Funerall of the most ver-
tuous and truely religious young Gentlewoman,
Mistr. sse Cicely Puckering, Daughter and Co-
heire to the right Worshiptull, Sir Thomas
Puckering, Knight and Baronet, the four-
teenth day of April, 1636.**

BY
JOHN BRYAN, Parson of Barford.

PSAL. 8. 2.

*Out of the mouths of Babes and Sucklings hast
thou ordained strength.*



LONDON.

Printed by Thomas Harper, for Lawrence Chapman,
and are to be sold at his shop in Holborne, at
Chancery lane end. 1636.

INTRODUCTION

二〇

1761.80

1761.80

• 2 0 1 1 • 1 A 2 9

Die Ergebnisse der Untersuchungen der im

2800:03

Chlorophyllophage curv. (Hedw.)

To the right Worshipfull, Sir
THOMAS PVCKERING, Knight and
Baronet, and to his vertuous and religious Lady,
increase of all saving graces here, and everla-
sting peace and rest in heaven.



His Sermon preached at the funerall of
your dearest childe, (who was a grati-
ous Saint on earth, and is now a glori-
ous one in heaven) I doe humbly dedi-
cate to you both; it being yours by all
manner of right, and the best Present

I am able to present your Worships with. My poore
paines taken herein, I heartily acknowledge to deserve
neither yours, nor the acceptation of any that are judici-
ous; but the speeches which proceeded from the heavenly
mouth of your blessed Daughter, which are here related,
deserve in the judgement of wise and good men, to be writ-
ten in letters of Gold, and to be known and read of all men,
being full of life and power to quicken the dullest soule to
a love and liking of the wayes of godlinesse.

The desire to beare this Sermon preached, was great,
and generall, as appeared by the great confluence of peo-
ple out of Towne and Country; neither is it dou-
ted, but that some good was then wrought upon many souls

And the desire to have it published, is greater and more
generall, there being hope conceived that much glory may
be brought to God, and much edification to men, by consi-
dering the worke of God upon so tender yeares.

The Epistle Dedicatory.

Your Worships have much honoured God and your selves, by bearing so great a triall with such admirable patience and comfort. What remaineth, but that you alwayes set before your eyes this matchlesse patterne which proceeded from your owne bowels, for your imitation; that as you were instruments to give her a temporall life, so she (though dead, yet speaking) may be an happy instrument, though not to give, yet to increase and maintaine the life of grace and consolation in your soules.

You have begunne to cleave to Christ with firme decree and full purpose of heart; and the world observeth, that you are already rich gainers by this great losse. Goe on I beseech you, and grow daily in the exemplary practise of a really religious life, being fully assured, that he whose glory you seeke, and whose yoke you beare, will in due time make up this breach, and recompence this losse, if not in the same kinds, (which I pray and hope) yet in some other, which shall be most for his glory, and your comfort in the end.

Neither is there cause that you should overmuch lament the losse of this one childe, seeing God hath blessed you with many children, though but one living, (upon whom, God Almighty double his blessings) For (to omit many, whose parents in effect you are) may I not call those sixe poore children in Warwicke for whom you have provided honest and profitable trades and callings, every seven yeares successively to the worlds end, (of whose death there is no feare while the common wealth and lawes continue in life) your children?

But fearing, lest I should exceed the bounds of an Epistle, desiring your favourable acceptance of this poore expression of my thankfull minde for your many favours, I humbly take my leave, and rest

Your Worshps much obliged, and in
the Lord ever to be commandned,

John Bryau.

The Vertuous

DAVGHTER.

— PRO. 31, 29.
Many Daughters have done vertuously, but thou excellest them all.

His Chapter spends it selfe for the most part in the description & commendation of a vertuous woman. The exordium or beginning of the encomium, is in the tenth verse; *Who can finde a vertuous woman? for her price is farre above rubies.* The conclusion of it is in the four last verses, whereof my Text is one.

Wherein the holy Ghost giveth her (as we see) a most ample testimony and commendation by way of comparison, for hee compareth her not with a vicious one (whom it is no great grace to surpassee) but with the vertuous, nor with one onely, but with many: all which (he witnesseth) she doth not onely equallize, but farre excell. *Many daughters have done vertuously, but thou excellest them all.*

The maine lesson which the Spirit of God intendeth to teach us in this context, and especially in these words, is this, *That such as doe vertuously, may and should bee praised: yea, the more vertuously any doe, the more praise and commendation is due to them.* This good woman described in this chapter, is (as you see) not onely positively, but superlatively praised.

For the explication of this point, nothing needs opening, save what is meant by doing vertuously.

Explication.

The vertuous Daughter.

What it is to
doe vertuously.

Morall Philosophers define vertue thus. It is (say they) an habit of the minde, acquired and confirmed by custome, use and practise, enabling a man to rule his appetite, and to discharge the duties of his calling in a laudable manner.

In fewer words thus; It is an elective habit, inclining the will to well-doing.

Now to wel-doing, they teach (a) foure things to be requisite.

1 That the thing or subject matter of the action, be in it selfe lawfull and good; even such as is approved and warranted by the judgement of wise men: for this they make the rule of vertue. (b)

2 That the agent both know and purpose the doing of it: for he that doth a good action ignorantly or rashly, cannot be said to doe well, seeing science and counsell are the foundation of every good worke: for as to him that knoweth to doe good, and doth it not, to him it is sinne: so to him that doth good, and knoweth it not, or purposeth it not, it is sinne also.

3 That his end be right: for hee that doth a good worke for some by-respect, and not out of love to goodnessse, and for it owne sake, he may doe something which may be materially good, but it is, at the best, far from being well done.

4 That he continue and hold out unto the end in his purpose and endeavour of doing well: for perseveriance is the complement and crowne of vertue.

Divinity defines it thus. It is a gift of Gods Spirit, and a part of regeneration, whereby a man is made apt and able to deny all ungodlinessse and worldly lusts, and to live soberly, righteously, and godly in this present world. And to doe thus, is to doe vertuously.

For confirmation of this truth, first I will give you some examples of vertuous women, both out of the old and new Testament, who are commended by the holy

(a) Πρᾶτον μὲν εἰδός, ἐπειτὴν δὲ προσεργέμενος καὶ περιεργέμενος τὸν τεῖχον, καὶ βεβαιώντας τὸν αὐτοῦ εἰσαγωγῆς. Aristot. eth. lib. 2. cap. 4.
(b) οὐδὲ γενητοῦ οὐδὲν. lib. 2. cap. 6.

The vertuous Daughter.

holy Ghost for doing vertuously.

Jael the wife of Heber the Kenite, is much commended by the Prophetesse for her courage in killing Sisera.

Abigail, the wife of Nabal the Carmelite, is praised for her discretion, and is said to be a woman of good understanding: and David blesseth her and her advise, whereby she preserved her whole family from ruine.

The vertues of Ruth, Naomies daughter in law, were generally taken notice of, and she therefore honoured of all the people.

The holy women in old time are commended for trusting in God, adorning themselves modestly, and for subjection to their husbands.

Our Saviour doth largely commend the sinfull penitent woman in the seventh of Saint Lukes Gospel, and in the next chapter, Mary Magdalene, Joanna and Susanna, are noted and commended for their liberality toward Christ: They ministered to him of their owne substance.

And what shall I say more? for the time would faile me to tell of Rebekah, Deborah, Hannah, Lydia, Priscilla, Dorcas, Tryphena, and Tryphosa; and above all, the blessed Virgin Mary, our Lords Mother.

The like instances may be given of men also: as of Hananiab, of whom it is laid, That he scared God above many.

And of Josab it is recorded, That like unto him, there was no King before him, neither arose there after him, any like unto him.

¶ Of Job, God himselfe speaks thus to Satan. Hast thou considered my servant Job, that there is none like him in all the earth?

The second prooofe of the point is from Gods Promises: he hath engaged himselfe that such as live vertuously, shall bee prailed; see the verse before my Text. Her children rise up, and call her blessed, her husband also and

Judg. 5. 24. 25.

26. 2. 27. 28. 29. 30. 31.

1 Sam. 35.

Ruth 3. 11. 12.

1 Pet. 3. 5.

Luke 7. 44. 45

46. 47.

Chap. 8. 3.

Neh. 7. 2.

2 Kings. 23. 25

Job 1. 8.

2 Cor. 13. 14.

2 Cor. 13. 15.

Prov. 31. 22.

30.

and he shall praise her: and the verse after my text, *A woman that feareth the Lord, she shall be praised.*

Pro. 31. 30.

10. 7.

Psal. 112. 6.

3 Confim.

Pra. 31. 31.

Rom. 13. 7.

οὐ πεινασθεῖσιν.
τὸν αἰρέσθαι.
& lib. 4. cap. 3.
τὸν αἴρεσθαι.
λογίη πομπή, καὶ
απορία μη
τοῖς αἰδοῖς,
&c.

Thus Diis, Ians
verò bonis viris
tribuenda est.

Recte facta
linda et honesta
rum est.

Phil. 4. 8.

Mark. 26. 13.

4 Confim.

So also he saith elsewhere, *A gracious woman retaineth honour: and againe, The memory of the just is blessed;* and the Prophet David likewise saith, *The righteous shall be had in everlasting remembrance.*

Thirdly, God hath given commandement to commend and praise those that live vertuously. *Give her of the fruit of her hands, and let her works praise her in the gates,* (saith the holy Ghost in the last verse of this Chapter) that is, praise her for her workes publikely.

See a generall command given by Paul, *Render to all their dues, tribute to whom tribute, honour to whom honour.*

Now that honour is the due reward of virtue.

First, heathen men saw and taught. Aristotle in the second booke of his Ethickes, teacheth, that praise is due to virtue. Hee saith also elsewhere, that though a wise man should not desire praise, yet praise ought to be given to them that live according to the rules of virtue. Againe, another saith, Incense is due to the gods, and so is praise to good men: yea, they esteemed this a point of honesty. It is an honest thing (saith one of them) to commend wel-doing: now honesty standeth (you know) in giving every man his owne. But to let heathens passe.

Secondly, the holy Ghost hath tyed praise to virtue. The Apostle Paul saith, *If there be any virtue, if there be any praise:* implying, that where there is virtue, there must be also praise. I will conclude this proofe with that notable place in the 26. of Matthew, where Christ gives command, that *wheresoever the Gospel should be preached, there should also that, that the woman had done to him, be told for a memorial of her.*

Fourthly and lastly, there is good use of praising those that do virtuously, much profit may redound hereby.

First,

The vertuous Daughter.

3

First, to the praisers themselves. One saith, To prale the good, profiteth not the praled, but the praisers: for who will not be moved to labour for that good in themselves, which they commend in others?

Bonum laudare
non laudare sed
laudans cum pro-
dest. Ang.

Secondly, to such as heare them praised: for they by this meanes will be stirred up.

1 To Thanksgiving to God, for giving such grace unto men. We give thankes (saith Saint Paul) to God, and the Father of our Lord and Saviour Iesus Christ, since we heard of your faith in Christ Iesus, and of the love which ye have to all the Saints. And this effect we finde also of the liberality of the Corinthians; For the administration of the service of theirs not onely supplied the wants of the Saines, but was abundant also by many thankes/givings to God: while by the experiment of that ministracion, others glorified God for their professed subjection to the Gospell of Christ, &c. Thus prale comes to be referred to the Author of all things prale-worthy.

Colos. 3. 1-4.

2 To imitate what they heare praised: your zeale, (saith Saint Paul to the Corinthians) hath provoked ver-ry many: for as fire when it is raked into, tends forth greater heate, and light to them that sit about it: and as pretious oyntment, if it be stirred or poured fourth, doth cast a sweeter smell to all those that are neere it: even so the praises of vertuous and godly persons, being mentioned, will yeeld no small edification to thole that heare them.

2 Cor. 9. 12-13.

Before I come to application, I will briefly answer this question: namely,

Ad ipsum hu-
dabilium non
verorum mag-
orem.

2 Cor. 9. 14.

Whether ought we rather to praise the living, or the dead for wel-doing?

Question.

Answ. We have Christs example for both, and therefore both are undoubtedly lawfull, Matb. 8. 10. we finde him praising the living. I have not found (saith he, speaking of the Centurion) so great faith, as not in Israel, Job. 5. 35. he giveth an illustrious encomium

Answ.

Matb. 8. 10.

Job. 5. 35.

of the dead: for speaking there of John, whom Herod had beheaded, he saith, *Hee was a burning and a shining light.*

But of the two it is safer, and lesse subject to exception and danger, to praise the dead, and more profitable for two reasons, (*Ambrose* gives them) because then (saith he) flattery will not move the praiser, nor vaine-glory tempt the praised. Therefore *Ecclesiasticus* adviseth us to judge none blessed before their death. Wee may best commend the Saylers happynesse, when hee is arrived at the haven; and the Souldiers valour when he hath wonne the field.

This doctrine is pregnant, of profitable uses. It may serve by way of inference to inform our judgements.

I That it is not sufficient to have the theory or knowledge of virtue onely, but practice must be added to speculation. It is not vertue to know good and evill, but to doe good, and elchew evill. Our Saviour saith, *If ye know these things, happy are ye if ye doe them.* Againe he saith, *Blessed are they that heare the word of God and keepe it:* implying, that the knowledge of Gods word, and bare understanding of the mysteries of salvation, makeþ no man happy: but *who so looketh into the perfect law of liberty, and continueth therein, bee being not a forgetfull hearer, but a doer of the works,* this man shall be blessed in his deed. Reade Matib. 7. 24. to the end.

¶ That it is not enough to speake well, but wee must also doe well. The Scribes and Pharisees have this brand of hypocrisie set upon them by our Saviour Christ. (a) They say and doe not, *Matt. 23. 3.* (b) Too many in our dayes are like those Scribes and Pharisees; for though their tongues be steept in religion, yet their lives are stained with foule abominations, to the great scandall of their glorious profession. Let not these men thinke that God is any whit at all pleased to heare them

The vertuous Daughter.

7

them speake piously of him, and his kingdome, and the righteousnesse thereof, while they refuse to admit his kingdome into their hearts, and to expresse the power of it in their lives. Nay, he is greatly herewich offended.
(c) What hast thou (saith he) to doe, to take my covenant in thy mouth, seeing thou hatest instruction, and casteth my words behinde thee, and livest unjustly and unchastly? The Israelites speake well to Moses by Gods owne testimony. They have well said in all that they have spoken; but he wisther, Oh that there were such an heart in them, that they would feare me and keepe my Commandements. They proved afterward such as Paul speakes of, who professed they knew God, but in their workes they denied him, being abominable, disobedient, and so every good worke reprobate.

3 That we must not content our selves to doe vertuous and religieus workes, but wee must have a care that we doe them in a vertuous and religious manner.

First therefore they must proceed from a good root and fountaine, even a principle of regeneration within. A corrupt tree cannot bring forth good fruit. And so them that are defiled and unbelieving, is nothing pure, but their best workes are defiled in Gods eyes.

Secondly, they must be done in obedience to Gods command. Respect to his will must be the ground and motive of our working.

Thirdly, Gods glory must be our utmost end: Whatsoever we doe, we must doe all to his glory. If any man speake, let him speake as the Oracles of God; if any man minister, let him doe it as of the ability which God hath given him, that God in all things may be glorified.

Fourthly, wee must be abundant alwayes in good workes, unwearied in wel-doing. And finally, when we have done all that we can, we must say we are no profitable servants, wee have done but that which

στίν, καὶ τοὺς ἔ-
πειρας αὐτούς.
οι, δέκασθη π
ποιήσεις τῆς
ράμπων, οἱ
Πιλάρης ἀκά-
υτον περίπτωσ-
θῶν, ποιήσεις
τὸν τὴν θεογ-
ναῖον,
&c. Arl. Eth.
lib. 2. cap. 4.

(c) Αὕτη
πῦ βαλλεῖ;
οὐδὲν εἰ κακό-
ταρ. Τὸν αγ-
γεῖον. αἱ γόρις
ἢ εἰνοῖς αἴτη
βαλλεῖς αἱ πο-
λεῖς, οἱ λιο-
ντοι, οἱ εργο-
τεῖαι γένονται,
οἱ πτυχαὶ χει-
ροῦ. Agell.
lib. 17. cap. 19.
Dem. 5. 28 29.
Ili. 2. 16.
; Inference:
Math. 7. 18.
Ili. 2. 15.

1 Cor. 10. 31.
1 Pet. 4. 11.

was our duty to doe.

4 Inference.

1 Cor. 14. 12.
Eph 5. 15.
1 Cor. 14. 12.
Mat. 5. 47.

Math. 5. 48.

5 Inference.

1 Cor. 11. 22.

Pro. 28. 4.

Pro. 5. 20.

Pro. 10. 7.

*Frages conseru
merit man.*

4 That we ought not to content our selves with an ordinary meaure of grace and vertue, but we must seeke to excell others, like this woman in my Text, who excelled all other daughters that did vertuously. It is the Apostles injunction. *Seeke that ye may excell.* And againc, *See that ye walke exactly or precisely, not as the ordinary sort of Professors walke.* Our Saviour saith, *That if ye salute your brethren onely, what doe you more than others?* implying, that wee must exceed others in weldoing, setting God himselfe before us as our patterne: *Be ye perfect, even as your Father which is in heaven is perfect.*

5 That we ought not to prale, but rather to reprove and condemne vicious persons. The Apostle speaking of some disorders among the Corinthians, saith thus, *Shall I praise you in thi? I praise you not.* As who should say, I have no warrant to commend such as walke disorderly. Salomon saith, *That they that forsake the law, praise the wicked;* branding them with a marke of Apostasie from Gods law, that speake well of evill men.

Against these the Prophet pronounceth a woe. *Woe* (saith he) *to them that call good evill, and evill good.* These doe what in them lyeth, to make Gods commination of none effect. For he hath threatned, that *the name of the wicked shall rot and stinke.* Let not therefore ungodly ones, who have neither the habit nor the exercise of any grace or vertue in them, whose soules serve for no other use, then the soules of swine; to keepe their bodies from putrifying (as if they were borne for no other end than to consume Gods good creatures) expect any prale either in life or death, except it bee from flatterers: for as to them who continue patiently in weldoing, shall be glory and honour: so to them who obey not the truth, but obey unrighteousnesse.

Shall

The Virtuous Daughter.

9

shall be shame and confusion of face, both here and
hereafter. Reade *Jerem.* 22. 17. 18. 19.

Job expostulates thus with his friends, Will you speake wickedly for God, and talke deceitfully for him? It were may not speake falsely to glorifie God, much lesse may we to glorifie men. Thus should we justifie the wicked, and so make our selves abomination unto God. Nay, 'tis dangerous for men to affect and receive praise and glory, when they deserve it not. Reade. Acts 12.

32, 33, 6 That such as unfainedly desire and endeavour to
doe vertuously, shall not faile to have praise both of
God and men. 6 Inference.

First of God, who hath promised, that although the credit of his servants may for a season be covered with a cloud of reproach (as Joseph was); yet he will bring forth their righteousness as the light, and their judgment as the noon day. The Apostle Paul saith, hee that is a Jew inwardly, (that is really religious, who hath the inward power of godlinesse, as well as the outward forme) shall have praise of God. And this indeed is the true praise. For not he that committeth himselfe (as Saint Paul) is approved, but whom the Lord commendeth.

Rom. 2, 29.

Secondly, of men. Men will prize their faults the
Psalms; when they do best well so they selfe. Now a man
then doth good to himselfe when he doth vettuously.

2 Cor. 10.18.

And not onely the common sort of men, but also
Magistrates and men in high place will commend and
encourage us. The Apostle Paul saith, that *Rulers* are
not a terror to good works, *but as evil* ; *will they open*
not be afraid of the power, *doest thou* *which is good*, *and*
thou shall have praise for the same. *It is not for us to judge*
of weake, *to our selfe & living creatures* : *but*
for weake : *but with due caution to commende*, *commend*
and suffer *a churche*.

Rom. 12. 3.

T° Will not precipitation on this legation be which

The vertuous Daughter.

To come to the occasion in hand, (for I must wave all other generall uses for want of time) by this that hath been said, it may appeare, that I have warrant sufficient, signed with Gods owne hand, to speake in the praile and commendation of this young Gentlewoman, whose funerall rites wee now celebrate; forasmuch as shee hath deserved praise, having not onely done vertuously, but excelled all others of her sexe and age (take them both together) that I ever heard or knew of: for when shee dyed, shee was little more then twelve yeares of age.

And besides, all that hath beeene spoken for the lawfulness and conveniencie of this practise of praising the dead, I have for my patterne and precedents herein, not onely many late divines, who have in those funerall Sermons which they preached at the burials of godly persons, beeene exceeding large in their commendations, and were never yet excepted against for flattery. But also many antient Fathers, who not onely in their consolatory Letters written to them which lost their friends, have inserted large praises of them: but also in their Sermons at their funerals have done the like. Among others, Jerome is most noted, who although he call flatterers *sparkles of the diuell*, yet none ever more exceeded in the commendation of any, then he of that vertuous and godly Matron Paula, both in his Sermon which he preached at her buriall in *Bethlehem*, in a very great assembly of sundry nations, and also in his Epistle written ad *Eustochium*, which hee entitleth, *the Epitaph of Paula*.

True it is (as they teach in Schooles) that to praise a man for that which is not praiseworthy, or more then is meet, or not for a right end, is sinfull and cannot be justified: but with due cautions to commend, cannot be justly censured.

I will not therefore put on that resolution which
Cicero

*Scindiles
Dialect.*

*Aquin. 2.22.
q. 132.*

The vertuous Daughter.

11

Cicero once did; I will not, said he, be a praiser, lest I should seeme a flatterer; for so I should not onely wrong the dead, (in robbing her of her due honour, although she being received into the society of Saints in heaven, needeth not our praises, more than our prayers,) but I should also deale perfidiously both with God and you,

Note esse laudator, ne videar adulteror.

First, with God, in hiding a glorious candle under a bushell which he lighted for others to see and worke by; and whole command to his Apostles I have just caute in this case to apply to my selfe. What I tell you in darkenesse, that speake ye in light, and what ye hear in the eare, that preach upon the houses.

Mat. 5.15.

Secondly, with you, in keeping from you that precious treasure which may haply enrich you for ever. One compares the words of Saints to pure silver, the more you have of them, the wealthier you are. Our Saviour calls them pearls: and Salomon sayes they are like apples of gold in pretures of silver.

Mat. 10.17.

Sure I am, all that heard this childe speake of her health, but especially the day before; and that day she died, (as the sun shines most gloriously at his setting) did wonder at her gratiouse words, and might well say, never childe spake like this childe: so that we who heard her utter such divine sayings, so roundly, and in such an emphaticall manner, were forced to cry out; Doubtless we have heard strange things today. Neither can it be doubted, but that the promise which Christ made to his Apostles, was in a degree made good unto her, It shall be given you what ye shall speake: for it is not you that speake, but the habby to the fit.

Mat. 7.6.

Pro. 25.11.

You know our Saviours sayings to the Pharisees: teaching us thereto to judge of the heart by the mouth, if the life give not the tongue the lie. Out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speakeith. And good mennes of the good treasure of their hearts, bring forth for them good things.

Mat. 15.11.

Mat. 12.34.35.

things. The good things which this deare hand-maid
of the Lord brought out of the treasure of her heart, ar-
gued it to be truely good.

2 Pet. 1. 5. 6. 7.

The chaine of Christian graces spoken of by Peter,
did adorne and beautifie her sweet spirit: neither was
any one linke of that golden chaine wanting in her, as
might easily be evinced by demonstrative evidences.
But my purpose is onely to instance in three of those
graces: whereof when ye have heard undoubted proof,
ye may then doe like him, who by the length and big-
ness of Heresles his foot, gathered the proportion of
his whole body.

Aglom. 1. 1. 1.

The graces or vertues I shall instance in, are know-
ledge, piety, and patience: they are the Cardinall graces
on which all others hang, and turne, and these were
very evidently discernable in her, even to such as had
but halfe an eye.

2 Tim. 3. 7.

And first to give some evidences of her knowledge,
the Apostle taxeth certaine women in his time, who
were alwayes learning, and never able to come to the
knowledge of the truth; whom he therefore calleth *filly*
women. She was none of those women, but might true-
ly say with David; *I have more understanding than all*
my teachers, I understand more then the ancients. And
the truth of this appeareth by the confession of her best
teachers, that they never received so much edification
by any of her yeares, as by her words: as also of the
Doctor that was with her, who professed that hee
never heard any childe speake with more judgement in
all his life.

Psal. 119. 99
100.

She did indeed desire to be instructed by mee, her
words were these. *I pray you tell mee what course I*
shall take to live this short time that I have to live, as I
ought? Deare soule, I needed to receive instruction
of thee. God saw my need, and therfore sent me sear-
sonably unto thee: and I have learned of thee, better
then

then ever I did before, both how to live, and dy char-
pily.

The Apostle exhorts us to be children in malice; not
so in understanding. But oh that we were all like this
childe in understanding! For such was her knowledge,
farre beyond her yeares, not confusid, but distinct; not
swelling, but humbling; not like the light of the Moon,
but of the Sunne: a favorite affecting and heating know-
ledge: it warmed her owne heart, and ours also.

Take one profe of her knowledge in religion, long
before her sicknesse. When the Nurses childe in the
house was drowned, and the Mother mourned sore for
it, she gave her this grave counsell: Seeing Gods will is
done in taking away your childe, take heed of offending
God by murmuring: doe we not daly pray that Gods will
may be done? and therefore when it is done, we shalldoe
consent.

Hearre also some passages in her sicknesse, which prove
that she was indeed indued with sound knowledge and
judgement.

Being asked occasionally whether Christ would
heale her of her sicknesse, seeing he never refuled to
heale any; She answered, I believe that he can doe it,
but I cannot beleive that he will heale the sicknesse of my
body, but by deaw.

Againe, being asked whether she thought God af-
flicted her in anger, or in love; She answered, Truely I
cannot tell, but I know he hath cause to doe it in anger.

Againe, telling us how Satan had long tempced her
to doubt of her salvation, She said, her hope was that
she did belong to God, because Satan was so busie with
her.

The second grace or vertue that evidenced it selfe in
her, and wherein we shalld labour to imitate her,
was piety or godlinesse, which hath the promise of this
life, and that which is to come. And it consists of three

1 Cor. 14. 20.

1 Tim. 4. 8.

Luke 9. 23.
Luke 14. 16.

parts, or there are three graces required to make one truely pious : viz. 1 Selfe-denyal. 2 Sanctification. 3 Devotion.

1 Selfe-denial, the necessity whereof appears by these speeches of our Saviour : *If any man will come after me, let him deny himselfe; and againe, if any man come to me, and hate not his Father and Mother, and Wife and Children, and Brethren and Sisters; yea, and his owne selfe also, he cannot be my disciple.*

That this grace was not onely in truth, but in a great measure in her, will appeare if we consider five sorts of things wherein she had denied herselfe.

1 All earthly profits and contentments. It was my first question to her; are you willing to leave the world? her answer was, yea truely; for *I see nothing in this world that should move me to desire to live.*

2 Bodily eale and freedome from paine : for being almost tyred with a linging sickness, and this question put to her; Whether had you rather continue in this milery still, or commit a sinne to be released of it? She answered cheerfully, *I had rather continue this sicknesse than commit any sinne to bewell.*

3 Her Parents: for being asked whether she were willing to leave her Parents, and goe to Christ, She answered, *I love my Father and my Mother dearely, but I love them lower then Christ.*

4 Her owne merits and ritecouenesse : for when I demanded of her what ground of hope she had to goe to heaven, her answer was, *My hope is in the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ.* But have you nothing in your selfe, said I, to take comfort in? No truely, said shee, *I finde no good at all in my selfe, but a great deale of evill.*

5 Her life. She never smiled but twice in her sickness, (that I took notice of) and both those smiles were at the mention of her death. Once when I told her, that

that death would cure her of al her infirmities; I said she, and smiled, and my desire is to dye, which is farre better than to live. Againe, I asked her, whether had you rather (if you might have your chioise) recover, and be matched to the greatest Noble man in the world, or dye and be matched with Christ? She smiled againe, and said, I had rather dye, for there is no difference betwene them; you meane, no compariton, said I: yea, said she, There is no comparison betwene the greatest Lord, and Iesus Christ; I weareid there is great difference.

The second part or branch of piety, is Sanctification or regeneration, which is nothing else, but a stamping of the Image of God upon the soule, and the writing of his law in the heart; a partaking of the divine nature: a spirituall principle or divine instinct, inclining the soule upward unto God.

That she was partaker of this new birth, and had an heart throughly sanctified, will appeare by two things. She was throughly humbled for her sinnes: for She complained that she had forsaken God, and broken that covenant which she made with him in Baptisme, and therfore deserved no comfort thence.

She feared that though she mourned for sinne, yet God would not accept it, because she was not grieved enough.

She said, moreover, that she was weary and laden with sinne, more than with sicknesse.

Finally, being exhorted to call to minde for her comfort, the promises of the Gospell, she answered with griefe, and iterated it; Truly I have beene much too blame in neglecting to reade the Scriptures.

These and many more signes she had of a soule savingly humbled for her sinnes.

There appeared divers expressions of divine and gracious impressions in her, which were infallible characters of sanctification: as namely,

1 Poverty of spirit: she complained of her want of grace, laying; *she had very little grace, or rather none at all in her*.

2 Her hungering and thirsting after grace: *Oh, I would give*, said she, *any thing for grace*.

3 Her hatred of sinne, and love of Christ, evidenced in some former answers.

4 Her humility mixt with faith; for hearing me say, that her heavenly husband had prepared a place in heaven for her, whither she was hasting; *Oh, said she, Let me have the lowest place there, and I shall thinke myself happy*.

The third thing requisite to make one godly, is Devotion. It is said of *Cornelia*, that he was a devout man, and so it may be laid truly of this childe, that she was a devout childe: for shee held in her judgement, and professed with her mouth, the true religion of God; which gives all to Gods free gracie, and leaves man none occasion of boasting in himselfe. You haue before how freely she renounced all libertie in herselfe, and sought for all her comfort out of her selfe, only in Jesus Christ.

1 Pet. 3. 15.

Againe, she made conscience of the duties of religion: was fearefull of an oath: strict in sanctifying the Lords day. She was frequent in reading the Scriptures; and desirous to heare them read, when she could not reade her selfe, (because of the sorenesse of her eyes) and yet she thought her selfe too blame, because she read no more (as ye heard even now.) She would presse nigh, and hearken diligently when any good conference was in hand where she was. She was frequent in prayer, and fervent: and when it was painfull for her to speake, she would aske, *may I not pray in spirit?* and answer being made that she might, she did accordingly. She would also praise God for his mercies to her: and in particular for the spirituall comforts which he was pleased

Psal. 84. 10.

Act 1. 0 2.

The Vertuous Daughter.

47

pleased to afford unto her. And thus shee held on till death deprived her of ability.

The third and last grace wherein she excelled (I had almost sayd all other daughters) was Patience: and whether this grace had not it perfect worke in her, I leave you to judge, when you have heard these four evidences.

1 She was sensible of Gods correcting hand, and affected with the smart of his rod, as appeared by this speech, *I am almost even tyred with my sickness; but my hope is I am going to a better place, for this world is full of misery.*

Job 1. 20.

Ier. 3. 3.

2 She was silent and free from murmuring and forwardness. I heard them about her say, that notwithstanding standing the long continuance of her sickness, and the paine she suffered by purging and letting blood, yet she was never seene to open her mouth in discontent, nor to be angry or peccish with any that were about her.

Lev. 3. 10.

Job 34. 40. 41. 5

3 She did justifie God, and exalte him in his dealing with her: for being asked, Doe you not thinke God dealest very hardly and lewdely with you in afflicting you so sorely? Not truly doe I say, laid she, but I thinke he dealeth with me very well, because I have beene so wretched a sinner.

Psal. 119. 75.

Lam. 1. 12. 13.

Ecc. 9. 13.

Micah 7. 9.

4 She did submit willingly and obediently to Gods will and pleasure, as appears by these words of hers? *I am very willing, said she, either to live or dye; for if I live, I hope I shall live a more godly life, and commit less sinnes; if I dye, I shall be freed from all sinne and misery, whereof this world is very full: And so shee chose and had the better part.. And God was pleased to give her full*

Lxx. 1. 26. 47.

2 Sam. 14. 13.

assurance before her death: for hearing mention of the happinesse of heaven, she spake thus, I know that I shall very shortly see and enjoy it: which she did.

Sic mihi contingat vivere, sicque mori.

I thought it my duty to mention these vertues and graces of this sweet childe of God, my Text calling upon me so to doe.

Verse 30.

As for her birth, and favour, and beauty, and riches, (the holy Ghost telling us they are *deceitfull and vaine*) I thought them not worthy so much as of mention.

Let that which hath beeene said in her commendation, first, cause us all (especially those who are of more yeares, and farre longer standing in the Schoole of Christianity) to blush and be ashamed and confonnded in our selves, that we should be thus outstrip in knowledge, selfe-denyal, sanctification, devotion, and patience by such a babe in Christ, such a childe in yeares.

Matb. 18.2.3.

2 Let it stirre us up and provoke us to imitation: we reade that our Saviour tooke a childe, and set him in the midst of his Disciples, and said unto them: *Except ye be converted, and become as little children, ye shall not enter into the kingdome of heaven.*

I have after our Saviours example set a childe in the midst of you, and doe assure you, that except ye become like it in those graces & vertues formerly mentioned, ye shall in no wise be saved: yea, this childe shall rise up in judgement against you at the last day, and so shall all her gratiouse speeches, which I have uttered from her mouth.

The virtuous Daughter.

• 19

I will shut up all with a few words of exhortation,
unto the worthy Parents of this virtuous childe.

Foure things I have (right Worshippull) to exhort
you unto.

To search and try your wayes: This we are to doe
in what affliction soever we are. Wherefore (saith the
Church) doth the living man complaine, as a man for the
punishment of his sinnes? Let us therefore search our
wayes, and turne againe to the Lord. Desirous God, as
I did, to shew you wherefore he contended with
you.

I
L43.3.39-40.

It may be the sinne was overlovinge of your childe; for that is an ordinary fault even in the best Parents; we see it in David, how exceedingly did hee lovere naughty sonne, as appeareth by his excessive griefe at his death? And the King was much moved, and went up to the Chamber over the gate and wept: and as he wepte thus, he said, O my sonne Absalom, my sonne, my sonne Absalom, would God I had dyed for thee; O Absalom, my sonne, my sonne. It may be you had a male love to your childe, and offered a female to the Lord.

Job No. 2.

To be thankful to Almighty God Saint Paul exhorteth us, in all things to give thankes, and to make our requestes knowne unto God by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving. Jobs example is most worthy of your imitation, who at the losse of his Cattell, Servants, and Children, laid The Earth gave; and the Lord hath taken away; blessed be the name of the Lord his God.

2
Tber. 5. 1.
Pbil. 4. 6.
Job 1. 3. 1.

More especially let me exhort you to thanksgiving
to God for these three blessings. For

Marye 1621
1621 & TAKEN
1621.
Rom. 7. 4.

For making you instruments of bringing forth such a child as hath beene described. I may say to you, as Saint Paul in another case did to the Romans, *You have brought forth fruit unto God.* and I againe say,

3 For arming you with such courage and patience, in bearing so great a losse, so quietly and obediently, and that you are come to see her committed to the ground, with as much cheerfulness, as the Husbandmanes his pretious seed cast into the earth, and coveted with goddes: which he values at as high a rate, as that which he reserves at home: as knowing that though her body lye a while in the grave, yet it shall shortly rise a glorious body, as the Apostle teacheth, *Phil. 3. 21. What shall change our vile body, that it may be fashioned like his glorious body: and shall shine forth as the Sunne, in the kingdomes of her Father.* O my sweete soule, casting evill thoughts vpon me, I cannot vndeare you.

3 For giving you such cause of patience, and ground of comfort, In that he hath removed that thing from you, which might have stollen your hearts from him.

2 In that he gave you such assured evidences of grace in her, before her death; and her assurance of salvation.

3 In taking her away so sweetly, without the least paine or strugling.

4 In infusing such comfort into your soules, even in the time of her dissolution, that you more rejoiced for her gaine, then sorrowed for your owne losse.

3 To draw nearer unto God, and to have more fellowship with him in his ordinances: and you shall finde

finde the comfort of your childe in God, who will be better to you then ten daughters: yes, he will recompence your losles to you, if not in the same, yet in some other kinde, as he shall see it best for his owne glory, and your comfort.

2 Sam. 1, 18.

4 To bury all your sorrow for her, in the grave with her, and let it rife no more: Put on Davids resolution. While the childe was yet alive, I fasted and wept, for I said, who can tell whether God will be gracious unto me, that the childe may live? But now he is dead, wherefore should I fast? can I bring him backe againe? Goe hence with as much comfort, as if you had matched her to the greatest prince on earth. Doe as the wise man counselleth, Goe thy way, eat thy bread with joy, and drinke thy wine with a merry heart, for God acceptith thy works. Let thy garments alwaies be white, and let thy head lacke no oyle.

4

2 Sam. 13, 32.
23.

Eccles. 9, 7, 18.

You rejoiced on the day of her birth: why then rejoice now; for the day of death is the loules birth-day. And the Preacher telleth us (speaking onely of such as she was) That the day of their death is better then the day of their birth.

Eccles. 7, 1.

I will conclude all with that advise of Nebemiah: Goe your way, mourne not, neither be sorry; for the joy of the Lord is your strength.

Nebum. 8, 10.

D

FINIS.

all will odw. beth in oblique r. g. 150/47. beth er
er: oblique r. g. 150/47. beth er: oblique r. g. 150/47.
er: oblique r. g. 150/47. beth er: oblique r. g. 150/47.
er: oblique r. g. 150/47. beth er: oblique r. g. 150/47.

diminutio. ai, and velar consonants. beth er: 150/47. a
consonants. beth er: 150/47. beth er: oblique r. g. 150/47.
ai, and velar consonants. beth er: oblique r. g. 150/47.
ai, and velar consonants. beth er: oblique r. g. 150/47.
ai, and velar consonants. beth er: oblique r. g. 150/47.
ai, and velar consonants. beth er: oblique r. g. 150/47.
ai, and velar consonants. beth er: oblique r. g. 150/47.
ai, and velar consonants. beth er: oblique r. g. 150/47.
ai, and velar consonants. beth er: oblique r. g. 150/47.
ai, and velar consonants. beth er: oblique r. g. 150/47.
ai, and velar consonants. beth er: oblique r. g. 150/47.

Yon u. j. o. k. e. d. o. i. s. e. q. e. o. i. p. p. p. : w. l. y. p. c. e. r.
j. o. k. e. d. o. w. ; t. o. l. i. p. e. q. e. o. i. p. c. e. r. p. i. c. e. r.
A. u. d. i. c. e. l. i. s. s. e. c. h. o. t. t. e. l. l. i. s. e. l. l. e. l. l. e. l. l.
e. l. l. e. l. l. e. l. l. e. l. l. e. l. l. e. l. l. e. l. l. e. l. l. e. l. l. e. l. l. e. l. l.

I. u. l. l. c. o. n. c. u. n. g. H. m. u. l. d. i. n. g. H. o. l. l.
l. l. l. l. l. l. l. l. l. l. l. d. i. n. g. H. o. l. l. l. l. l. l. d. i. n. g. H. o. l. l.

II

21213

Her Epitaph by the Author.

Birth, breeding, beauty, grace, & carriage sweet
In thee deare Saint, did all together meet:
The Sunne ne're saw a lovelier face than thine,
Nor heaven receiv'd a spirit more divine.
Thrice happy Parents such a childe to breed,
Begot againe of Gods immortall seed.
Cease sorrowing then, fith Saints & Angels sing
To see her match'd with an eternall King.